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SOVIET DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE OFFICIAL VIEWS TALKS

PM050957 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the "Disarmament" rubric containing interview with B.P. Prokofyev, deputy leader of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva Disarmament Conference: "Defend the Future!" -- First paragraph is TASS introduction]

[Text] Geneva -- A routine session of the Disarmament Conference is beginning work here. We asked counsellor-envoy Boris Pavlovich Prokofyev, deputy leader of the Soviet delegation, to describe the tasks facing the participants in this important international forum.

The routine session of the Disarmament Conference is a very important forum for multilateral talks in the disarmament sphere. This body's uniqueness is determined by the fact that all five nuclear powers are taking part in its work as well as a large group of nonaligned and neutral states. The conference is resuming its activity at a time when the world public's attention is centered on the wide-ranging program of concrete measures aimed at the fundamental improvement of the international situation contained in M.S. Gorbachev's statement. Many of the questions raised in the statement fall within the competence of the Disarmament Conference. Thus, it is very important to comprehensively step up the discussion of those questions and work to reach agreements to limit the arms race in specific spheres. That is the aim of the socialist community countries, which as long ago as the 23 October 1985 statement of the Warsaw Pact leaders in Sofia, stressed the need to increase the effectiveness of the existing multilateral forums, including the Disarmament Conference. It has the necessary potential for that.

The new package of Soviet peace initiatives put forward in M.S. Gorbachev's statement should impart momentum to the talks on all the disarmament questions under examination at the Geneva conference. The Soviet Union's concrete program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world is of particularly great importance. The Disarmament Conference could make its contribution to solving this problem. I should like to stress in particular that the active participation of the non-nuclear countries, including the nonaligned and neutral countries widely represented at the conference, in the discussion of the relevant problems would be of considerable significance for resolving this question. The Soviet Union proposes practical work on the question of preventing the arms race in space and the formulation and implementation of plans for its peaceful exploration through the efforts of all mankind. Preventing the arms race from spreading to space would mean removing an obstacle to the in-depth reduction of nuclear armaments. That is our delegation's position. Our Western partners are familiar with it. It is up to them to reply.

The Soviet proposal on the complete cessation of nuclear weapons tests is also of fundamental significance. This is essential to halt the nuclear race "in time" and create the preconditions for disarmament in this sphere. The task of achieving the complete elimination of chemical weapons occupies an important place in the Soviet arms limitation and disarmament program.

Thus, there are major and important tasks ahead of the Disarmament Conference. The Soviet Union has come to the conference bringing a program of major initiatives offering a real path to limiting the arms race and disarmament. If the other participants also show a business-like and responsible approach and express a readiness for constructive cooperation in the search for mutually acceptable solutions, the conference's work can be marked by fruitful results.

'TOP PRIORITY' DISCUSSES 'WILLINGNESS' IN ARMS CONTROL

LD031659 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 3 Feb 86

[From the "Top Priority" program, presented by Vladimir Posner with Dr Radomir Bogdanov and Dr Sergey Plekhanov of the United States of America and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences]

[Excerpts] [Posner] Hello, everybody and welcome to "Top Priority". Today on the panel, as usual, are Dr Radomir Bogdanov and Dr Sergey Plekhanov of the USA and Canada Studies Institute and your host is Vladimir Posner. Today we'll be discussing equal responsibility and we'll be discussing it as applying to the arms race. Now you've certainly heard it said that both the United States and the Soviet Union are equally responsible for the arms race and for where we are today. That view, which is shared by many people with just plain common sense, is expressed also in the words of William Shakespeare: "A plague on both your houses". I propose we examine this particular area and we examine it first of all, perhaps, from the viewpoint of the willingness of this or that country to actually disarm, to find ways of controlling and reducing nuclear weapons. I believe it can be said that the latest proposals by the Soviet Union as formulated by Mikhail Gorbachev, mapping out a three-stage plan to do away with nuclear weapons by the year 2000, does express this willingness on the Soviet Union's part. However, let's get down to brass tacks. How do you feel about this whole issue and the issue of willingness, Dr Bogdanov?

[Bogdanov] Well, willingness, to my mind, belongs to rather subjective, you know, things of life, not objective. Whether it is the will or not to, willingness by itself doesn't mean too much if it does not lead to practical deeds, you know. We have witnessed many times in the history that some very benign goals were stated very loudly, but we never completed them, we never realized them, you know. So I prefer while talking about willingness to link it with the practical deeds. But you know, though our topic is rather of historical nature, I believe it has very close links with the realities of today. And when I come back to Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal on getting rid of nuclear arms it comes to my mind how all that began, how all that begins. When? I wouldn't put this, you know, banal question, who is guilty, who is responsible, but still, you know, to understand deeper what our proposals mean, I would like to dwell a little bit on this (?past), to come back a little bit to the history of that question. Maybe that will justify our talking about what you have suggested. Let me start with some figures. I have very few words today, but just some figures and some facts which I would like to bring to the notice of our American listeners. Number one, we finished the Second World War with terrible human (?loss) -- 20 million people. Number two, we were literally stricken, half of our country, literally speaking, was destroyed by German occupation. What does it mean? That 15 major cities of the Soviet Union were destroyed.

[Posner] Fifty?

[Bogdanov] Fifteen, fifteen major -- I don't count small, I mean major. Number three, several thousands of villages, big and small, were destroyed and material losses come to the level of several billion of dollars, not today's dollars, mind you, but those dollars.

[Posner] 1945.

[Bogdanov] [words indistinct] 1934. So my question is, the leading countries still [words indistinct] how we could [words indistinct] towards the other countries or towards America which finished the war -- that was the only country with real economic and financial...changes thought all the others [words indistinct].

And another fact which I would like to bring to the notice of my American listeners is that we and [word indistinct] armed forces as big as 12, about 12 million people and after '45, we had several major cuts in our armed forces, in such a way that by the end -- by the beginning of '48 -- from 12 million we came to about 2.8 million peop people in our armed forces. That is the fact which is abolutely distorted in America because people still believe that beginning from the end of the Second World War we kept the same armed forces that we had fighting the Germans, you know. Now that's introduction to the program.

[Posner] Well, that's a very impressive introduction. Let me just recapitulate. You are saying then that between 1945, the end of World War Two, and 1948, Soviet...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] The beginning of '48.

[Posner] ...the beginning of '48, the Soviet military force was cut from 12 million to somewhat under 3 million people?

[Bogdanov] They are official figures and if somebody is really interested they can pick up, you know, that from our press, from our official statements. So my point is, my question to my American listeners is, how a country in such a situation could be aggressive and could have aggressive, you know, designs? Now, the nuclear problem -- which is the major problem of our day -- who started all that? Just to remind to my American listeners that the first bomb was exploded, nuclear bomb, in August '45, American. Ours was exploded at the end of forties, at the end of forties.

Now, strategic bombers -- and you know I am going item by item in their historical consequence -- strategic bombers, American strategic bomber, first one appeared in the middle of the fifties, in the middle fifties, ours at the end of the fifties. And let me remind you that a kind of bomber gap, so-called bomber gap, was created by Truman administration just to produce a big jump in the American production of nuclear or strategic bombers. And they were accusing us that we had already so many of them that America should catch up with us. After that they themselves (?punched) up astonishing figures that the so-called bomber gap never existed and the number of Soviet gaps [as heard] was distorted, exaggerated three, four time, three, four times, that's American official figures published.

[Posner] Dr Bogdanov, this business of gaps is not new. I mean, it was used consistently over the years: the bomber gap, the missile gap, the this gap and the that. That's true enough. I would like to ask you to hold on for one minute there. Dr Plekhanov has been strangely silent today. We'll get back to Dr Bogdanov's very interesting figures shortly, but we'd like to have your view.

[Plekhanov] Well, I support what Dr Bogdanov just said. I think one should also keep in mind how the world looked to American policymakers at the end of the Second World War.

Europe lay in ruins, Germany was defeated, Japan was defeated, and those were major competitors of the United States before the world war. France was severely weakened, Britain was barely holding on to its empire and was extremely weak financially and economically. In the Third World there was a great clamor for independence and many of the old European colonial powers were on the verge of losing their positions in the Third World. So it looked like a very unstable and very inviting world to those people in the United States who thought that the United States could use its huge military might. And in fact, the United States emerged from the war not only unscathed, but greatly strengthened, economically and militarily, and the idea of Pax Americana, of reorganizing the world according to American standards and in American interests was very, very much on the minds of U.S. policy makers.

And they were able to persuade the country to go along with this expansionist idea only by means of using the Soviet threat, because if they just laid the facts straight on the table and said: Look, we want to control the world, the American people wouldn't support that. In the first place it was too dangerous; in the second place they didn't want to pay for the military muscle that was necessary for that; and in the third place they didn't want to throw the money around the world. And there was great opposition. But after several years of hammering out at the idea that the Soviet Union is out to take over the world and that communism is a world-wide threat, they were able to build up domestic support for this expansionist program of creating a huge network of military bases, military alliances, economic mechanisms designed to reorganize the world as a Pax Americana-ist world in the American way. And that is the real reason why there was the arms race, this expansionist idea.

Let me quote some very responsible reports of a very, you know, respected institute, the London Institute of Strategic Studies, which states -- and I believe their figures are right, not because their figures are in our favor, but because I (?myself) -- it's a very serious, you know, institution -- that in the last decade, the U.S. and NATO countries spent on military needs more than we to the tune of $300 billion. Those are the facts I would like to bring to the notice of our American listeners, and I would like them to make their own conclusions -- who is right, who is wrong.

[Posner] Dr Plekhanov, I think that you would agree that whenever there is an argument between two people, two sides, between husband and wife, whatever, it is natural to say that both sides are wrong. And therefore the argument that both sides are wrong, or are responsible, here seems to be a very plausible one and a very human one. Could you in all honesty as a human being say that nonetheless that argument does not hold water in this particular area of Soviet-American relations.

[Plekhanov] Well, I think that argument reflects another human trait, and usually two people who can't solve their conflict are blamed for continuing the conflict if they don't work enough on finding solutions, if they just keep blaming each other. So I think the key to the current situation is not only to identify the blame and responsibility -- that is important to set the record straight -- but the key thing is to find solutions which are acceptable to both sides and in the interests of both sides which are fair, balanced, equitable and so on. And it is in that area that one should really judge the performance of both sides. And I think that our side is doing whatever it can and bringing forth proposals, coming up with solutions, offering options which mean that we are prepared to walk our half of the mile, and so on. So we are really trying to break up the deadlock. We are not content with simply stating the responsibility of the American side that it's their fault, so let them get the world out of this predicament. We don't think so. We think that the equal responsibility lies on both sides for finding solutions and -- but again this is a case of, you know, it takes two to tango -- and we can bring forth the best possible solutions, come up with the best possible ideas. But if there is no acceptance on the other side, if there is no willingness on the other side to deal with this problem on the basis of equality, fair play, and good faith, and not trying to damage the other side, and to gain advantages over the other side, then the arms race will certainly continue.

[Posner] I think the proposals that you've been talking about, Dr Plekhanov, have been very clearly stated by Mikhail Gorbachev, the three-stage way of moving toward total nuclear disarmement by the year 2000, and I think that also expresses the will that you talked about, Dr Bogdanov, the will in the practical sense. And, of course, depending on how that proposal is ultimately treated by the United States, I think that we will see what this world is going to be. It also, I think, reflects quite clearly who is deeply, fundamentally, and sincerely interested in peace and stopping the arms race. Well, that's all on "Top Priority" today.

FURTHER SOVIET DEMANDS FOR SHCHARANSKIY RELEASE

LD041717 Hamburg DPA in German 1638 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Hamburg, 4 Feb (DPA) -- According to the information of BILD ZEITUNG (Wednesday [29 January] edition), the Soviet Union has made additional demands in the negotiations on the allegedly forthcoming exchange of agents between East and West. The paper claims to have learned that Moscow is demanding "around DM5 million" for the critic of the Soviet regime, Anatoliy Shcharanskiy. Moscow was also demanding that the West release a total of 11, instead of 8 as previously planned, high-ranking Eastern agents. The Soviets are also prepared to release the critic of the regime, Boris Kalandaryov from Leningrad, in return.

So far, the exchange, which has evidently been arranged, has not been officially confirmed either by the United Sates, by the Soviet Union, or by the Federal Republic of Germany. Israeli Government officials denied reports on Tuesday, according to which Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has been "officially informed" bv the United States about the exchange. According to the information of BILD ZEITUNG, Jewish businessmen from Antwerp are said to be prepared to put up the money for Shcharanskiy. Moscow has been offered an eight-figure sum for the release to the West of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Andrey Sakharov. The Kremlin has so far said "nyet" to this.

NATO'S ROGERS TRIES TO 'INTIMIDATE' WEST EUROPEANS

LD011721 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Setunskiy reports: The answer of the NATO military to the Soviet programme for ridding the world of nuclear arms is a speedy build up of the latest systems of nuclear arms. U.S. General Bernard Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander -- Europe, declared this bluntly in an ASSOCIATED PRESS interview. He announced the plans to start the deployment of new, "more effective" tactical nuclear missiles in Western Europe after 1988. The general stressed that this will be part of the implementation of a broad programme of the "modernisation" of NATO nuclear arsenals planned for the period of 1988-1995. Rogers explained that the "modernisation" envisages the replacement of "obsolete" nuclear missles now deployed in central Europe with new missiles that are more precise and have a greater range. He also came out with an "initiative" for the development and production of new "air-to-ground" nuclear missiles to equip the NATO air force with them.

Touching upon the Soviet programme of the elimination of all nuclear arms, the NATO supreme allied commander-Europe asserted, as if in mockery of common sense, that it is "potentially dangerous" for Western Europe. Specifically, he said that in no case should the Washington administration agree to the Soviet proposal for the complete elimination at the first stage of the medium-range missiles of the USSR and the USA, for, he said openly, this would weaken the United States strategic nuclear umbrella. But what horrifies the NATO chief most of all is the prospect of the world being rid of nuclear weapons altogether, and hence of the threat of nuclear annihilation. He tried to intimidate Western Europeans by declaring that in that case the Soviet Union would, allegedly, have the advantage in conventional arms. He demanded in an ultimatum form that nuclear weapons be preserved. Rogers admitted that the course of the Pentagon and the NATO top echelon at the speeding of nuclear rearming might come up against difficulties, in other words, against the further growth of the anti-nuclear, anti-war movement in Western Europe, protests of the broad public of those countries to which the U.S. Administration assigns the role of nuclear hostages. It follows from his statement that next week NATO high officials will set out for West European countries to exert efforts to push through their militaristic plans.

MOSCOW REPORTS REAGAN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

'Adventurism' Noted

LD050046 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0015 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, 5 February (TASS) -- On Tuesday, President Reagan delivered his traditional annual State of the Union message at a joint meeting of both chambers of Congress. In it the main guidelines and tasks of the federal administration's activity for the year that has started are formulated in general outline. From the message it follows that continued gambling mainly on blatant antipopular measures in the sphere of domestic policy and on adventurism, on the further build-up of military might in foreign policy and in the sphere of "national security", determines the country's course. In particular, speaking about budget priorities, the head of the White House confirmed the administration's intention to continue vigorous militarist preparations, expenditures on which will grow. This will be achieved in the first place through a further cut in federal expenditures on social programs, intended for giving assistance to unfortunate Americans.

'Peace Initiatives' Ignored

LD050751 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The President of the United States has delivered his traditional annual message on the State of the Union to Congress.

It is clear from it that the White House is continuing to bet on military force in its foreign policy line and on the doctrine of neocolonialism which envisages direct U.S. interference in the affairs of other states. Reagan in all kinds of ways in his message stressed the administration's devotion to the cause of ensuring peace on earth and achieving an understanding with the Soviet Union in the field of arms control, but he passed over in silence the package of concrete peace initiatives recently put forward by the Soviet Union, and which could serve as a firm base for the speedy achievement of such understandings.

President Reagan also made it clear that the United States will continue the unprecedented arms race and to implement its highly dangerous "star wars" plans.

Democratic Party Responds

LD050811 Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 5 TASS -- In his State of the Union speech President Reagan has failed to provide answers to the urgent problems facing the United States now. This was stressed by Senator George Mitchell (Dem. -- Maine) in a nationally televised official response of the Democratic Party to the President's speech. The budgetary and financial policies of the President, the Senator said, are driving more American families into hard times. Growing trade and budget deficits mean that America as a nation lives on loan. However, the Senator stressed, the moment is not far off when it will have to pay for that. Mitchell stressed that the United States could no longer afford to increase military spending without a limit, and ensure huge tax privileges, while trying to balance the federal budget.

'Old Policy' to Continue

LD051004 Moscow TASS in English 0954 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 5 TASS -- President Reagan addressed the joint sitting of the Senate and House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress with a traditional State of the Union speech. The address, intended to prepare the ground for the presentation of the draft federal budget for the next fiscal year in Congress, had an obvious promotional character and actually boiled down to the promise to continue the old policy of militarization, escalation of the arms race and its spread into outer space, state terrorism abroad and encouragement of "big business" and curtailment of social programs at home.

The Washington administration's approach to questions of war and peace was defined in the address with the formula which is old and simplistic but very dangerous for all that: America must arm itself and go ahead full tilt with its Strategic Defense Initiative, with the help of which the USA would like to make its nuclear arms arsenals invulnerable and to get a free hand for the first nuclear strike. Though the President expressed the hope that the Soviet-American summit in Geneva and the planned visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the USA "can lead to a more stable relationship" between the USA and the Soviet Union, he did not respond to the latest important Soviet initiatives for the reduction and eventual complete elimination of nuclear armaments and for the prevention of the militarization of space; moreover, he did not even mention them.

The President went even farther and jiggled with the "Soviet military threat" myth, imputing to the USSR a striving "to command people's lives and to export its ideology by force." He stressed that the United States intended to promote in every way "freedom" in the world, in other words, to pursue a policy of threats and diktat. Reagan made it clear that the USA would try even harder to incite local conflicts and expand intervention in the affairs of other countries. The President characterized gangs of Afghan, Nicaraguan, Angolan and Kampuchean counterrevolutionaries, financed and directed by the CIA, as "freedom fighters" and stated that America would continue to give them moral and material assistance. Reagan attacked especially summarily Nicaraguan, whose revolutionary achievements are viewed by Washington as a grave threat to its imperial interests in Central and Latin America.

There was much unrestrained praise for the administration's economic policy and for "American Democracy" in the address. "The United States is the economic miracle, the model to which the world once again turns," the President said. The falsehood of this self-advertising was exposed by a message made public at the time of the President's address by M. Snyder, leader of the public organization calling itself Community for Creative Non-Violence. Millions of men, women and children are living in misery, said that document, read from the steps of a doss house a mere kilometre away from the Capitol Hill, where Reagan was delivering his address. Those people, according to the message, have neither food nor home. Unemployment is rampant in the country, "redundancy," according to trade unions, stands at about 15 million. Families are breaking up and the number of the destitute keeps growing.

It is the policy of the administration that is to blame for all this: It has proclaimed a course of "guns before butter" and turns a blind eye to the needy and desperate.

The President made it clear that his administration, presumably to save money and to balance out the budget, was going to slash anew at social programs, on which millions of Americans depend for their welfare.

He said that he had ordered an evaluation of the remaining social programs, to be ready by December 1 this year, and a "strategy" for the solution of financial problems. In other words, it would be another plan for docking social spending and programs.

President Reagan gave in his address no answers to the most urgent problems confronting the United States today, Senator George Mitchell said in a televised official response to [as received] the Democratic Party to the address. According to Mitchell, the President's budget and financial policy is dooming more and more American families to privations while the growing trade and budget deficits indicate that America is living beyond its means. Mitchell said the time of reckoning was not far off. According to him, the United States could no longer afford escalating military spending without any limits and granting tax privileges while at the same time trying to balance out the budget.

House member Mary Rose Oakar characterised Reagan's State of the Union address as an exercise in hypocrisy.

MORE REPORTS ON SPACE SHUTTLE EXPLOSION

Charges of 'Callousness' Refuted

LD041258 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 4 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko:

A White House spokesman has expressed feigned surprise and even indignation over the fact that media reports and comments on the disaster of the space shuttle Challenger point to the dangers of the "star wars" programme.

He voiced his anger at the Soviet press comments on the accident accusing the USSR of showing a "very callous approach."

Haven't they in the White House noticed that reports and comments of this kind, based on concludions by experts, have appeared not only in the Soviet press, but also in the American media, in newspapers and magazines all over the world. The point at issue is that the Challenger disaster, as it is acknowledged by authoritative specialists and scientists, demonstrated the extreme unreliability of computer technology.

It is computers which are to control and direct sophisticated systems of space armaments that are intended for deployment in outer space in line with the so-called Strategic Defence Initiative.

The experts and commentators who thus displeased the White House proceed from the irrefutable fact that if computer-controlled systems are placed in orbit, no one can rule out a possibility of computer breakdown or response to a false signal, which will trigger off the systems trained on targets on Earth with all ensuing disastrous consequences.

In the United States, the warnings were issued by WASHINGTON POST analyst Mary McGrory, Director of the Washington-based Institute for Space and Security Studies Robert Bowman, Director of the Centre for Defence Information Admiral (Retired) Gene LaRocque, and many others. Moreover, the possibility was acknowledged in a report drawn up by the Pentagon-assigned commission of experts and scientists monitoring SDI progress.

DEFENSE NEWS, for instance, which is an American weekly, by the way, points out that such acknowledgements and warnings are not in the least groundless. The weekly published an article on February 3, saying that shuttle missions are directly linked with the implementation of the "star wars" programme. Before the Challenger disaster, the weekly writes, at least two shuttle flights had been planned that were to have carried out experiments wholly devoted to the SDI effort.

The weekly quotes Pentagon officials as indicating that despite the disaster, the U.S. Department of Defence is fully resolved to go ahead with the rapid realization of its programmes on the military use of outer space, including SDI.

Who then shows callousness? The experts and commentators who, while expressing sorrow over the death of seven astronauts, stress the fact that the implementation of the "star wars" programme is fraught with a global catastrophe and, therefore, demand that weapons be kept out of space? Or those who are exploring every opportunity to boost the programme, displaying readiness to continue risking not only the lives of astronauts but also the fate of all of mankind? The latest developments and logic itself irrefutably prove the correctness of the latter assumption.

Challenger Commission Established

LD041307 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 4 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced the formation of a special independent Presidential commission on the space shuttle Challenger accident.

He said Monday that within the next four months it "will review the circumstances surrounding the accident, determine the probable cause or causes, and develop recommendations for corrective action".

Commenting on the decision, NBC Television quoted officials as admitting that the establishment of the commission had been prompted exclusively by the administration's desire to make a favorable impression on public opinion. The TV network added that there had been no doubts about the ability of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to conduct an objective inquiry into the accident.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "A recent investigation by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, whose report is dated Dec. 13, cited several safety violations and personnel problems in the management of the solid-rocket assembly facility at the Kennedy Space Center." R. White, formerly a test engineer working with such rocket boosters, said that they were checked only visually and that only defects detectable by the naked eye were removed. The NEWSWEEK magazine commented that since the outset space shuttle launches were a risky venture from the technological standpoint.

Pentagon to Evaluate Explosion

LD041636 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 4 Feb 86

["SDI Work Is To Continue" -- TASS identifier]

[Text] Washington, February 4 TASS -- The Pentagon is looking for possibilities of accelerating work for military uses of outer space, despite the warnings made by competent specialists that, as was shown by the Challenger tragedy, the plans of deploying systems of armaments in outer space are fraught with a mortal danger to mankind.

Head of the Pentagon Caspar Weinberger has appointed David Latham, assistant secretary of defense for command, control and communications, head of a special group "to perform a comprehensive evaluation of the military implications of the loss of the Challenger to deal with, above all, the "star wars" program. The Pentagon's representative Robert Sims has said that the Defense Department "will make every effort to continue to carry out the national security missions it had planned."

U.S. SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD041342 Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow February 4 TASS -- U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy arrived in the Soviet capital today at the invitation of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR.

SHEVARDNADZE, HARTMAN DISCUSS ARMS PROPOSALS

LD041828 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 4 Feb (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Minister of foreign affairs, today received Arthur Hartman, U.S. ambassador to Moscow, at the latter's request.

Certain matters of Soviet-U.S. relations were discussed during the conversation.

Eduard Shevardnadze drew the ambassador's attention to the 15 January statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which set out a specific program with a carefully planned timetable for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons, with a ban on strike weapons in space. The hope was expressed that the U.S. side will not delay giving an answer to our important proposals, which provide a way out of the nuclear deadlock and, specifically, will follow the example of the USSR and join, while there is still time, our extended moratorium on any nuclear explosions. This would be a major step on the road to implementing the task of nuclear disarmament. It was stressed that if the U.S. Administration makes use of this new opportunity, it would understandably create a favorable background for the meeting of the highest leaders of our two countries.

GROMYKO, VANCE DISCUSS PEACE PROPOSALS

LD041951 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] Foreign news agencies are giving broad coverage to Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's conversation with Cyrus Vance, former U.S. secretary of state. Here is a latest news commentary. At the microphone is Aleksandr Zholkver, our political observer:

At the center of the conversation in the Kremlin were the USSR's large-scale peace proposals that were advanced in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement. The U.S. politician positively appraised the new Soviet initiative, noting that it had produced a favorable impression in his country. Indeed, I would just like to point out that 207 congressmen have already supported the draft resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives calling for supporting the Soviet proposal for a complete nuclear test ban.

But what has been the reaction of the Washington administration? At a regular press conference, a White House spokesman stated that the administration is still in the process of working out its response. Has not this "process" gone on long enough? After all, in other circumstances official Washington acts far quicker. Let us take, for example, the events following the Challenger disaster. A presidential commission has just started to investigate the causes of the explosion of the spacecraft, and more and more versions are being put forward about it, including the unreliability of the U.S. booster rockets. But in the Pentagon they are giving the impression that nothing particular has happened, and they are talking about the need to continue, and even to push on further with the United States' military space program.

Incidentally, it is not just the military that is now behaving in this manner, but also the United States' political leaders. Take for example, the recent speech by Vice President Bush, who, in setting out the Republican Party's platform for the autumn midterm elections to Congress, placed at its center a program for the further build-up of armaments, including strike and space weapons. Judging from what has been published in the U.S. press, this program will, from the financial point of view, be sealed in the draft budget for next year, which the White House has sent to Congress.

This is, indeed, dangerously playing with fire. Since the Challenger disaster, many U.S. newspapers have been asking one and the same question: What would happen if a similar disaster should occur during preparation for "star wars?" Would it not completely wipe out human civilization?

During the conversation in the Kremlin with the U.S. politician, it was noted that we are living in an age when leaders of states must -- are obliged to -- make decisions that would prevent a nuclear disaster. Let us hope that Washington heeds the voices of wisdom.

U.S. 6TH FLEET AIRCRAFT BOMB TARGETS IN NEGEV

LD041452 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 4 TASS -- During the latest provocative exercises in the Mediterranean, ship-based aircraft of the U.S. Sixth Fleet have begun to practice bombing runs on targets which are located at an Israeli practice ground in Negev desert.

As has been admitted by an official spokesman for the Pentagon, the USA did not use the practice ground earlier because it did not want to give rise to protests in Arab countries. However, in the present conditions of pressure being put on Libya, it has been decided to show the ability of planes based on the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga to deliver bombing strikes at any moment against targets in the Mediterranean area.

VOA STATION 'PSYCHOLOGICAL BACKUP' FOR CONTRAS

LD042108 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Yuriy Baranov report from Managua]

[Text] According to the Nicaraguan paper BARRICADA, the VOA administration has set up a relay station with a directional antenna, with a capacity of 50 kw, in Costa Rica. Programs will be carried on mediumwave, first in Spanish, then in the language of the Meskito Indians, who inhabit the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua.

Our correspondent Yuriy Baranov reports from Managua: The orientation of the relay station for VOA broadcasts toward the vast area of Nicaragua that is the Atlantic seaboard is no accident. In precisely this region, the bands of Somozist hirelings operate most energetically. It is precisely here that they are striving to establish a social basis for counterrevolution. By deceit, and when this fails, by force, they recruit local people into their ranks, mostly Meskito indians.

They are assisted in this by 76 radio stations, most of them in Honduras and Costa Rica. (Howard Frederick) a lecturer at the U.S. University of Ohio points out in his study The Radio War Against Nicaragua. The intensity of their counterrevolutionary propaganda fluctuates according to the scale of financial aid received from the USIA, whose purview includes the VOA.

The new VOA relay station on foreign territory is designed to play the role of first voice in the chorus of hostile radio stations broadcasting to Nicaragua. Thus its establishment attests to a stepping-up of ideological aggression against revolutionary Nicaragua, as psychological backup for the military aggression being conducted by the Somozist mercenary forces.

LENINGRAD-NEW YORK AIR ROUTE TO BEGIN 27 APR

LD041624 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1233 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Leningrad, 4 Feb (TASS) -- Transport services for trips to Leningrad are expanding considerably, journalists have been told by Lev Malygin, head of the city transport directorate. On 27 April there will be an inaugural flight on the Leningrad-New York route. A Boeing-737 liner of the Pan American airline will depart from Leningrad for Frankfurt-am-Main, where the passengers will transfer to a Boeing-747 to continue the flight to Washington and New York. There will be two flights a week.

Air transport on European routes will also increase. A 350-seater IL-86 liner will make scheduled flights from Leningrad to Vienna, and charter flights to Luxembourg. This airbus will also start flying to Berlin and Paris.

For the first time Leningrad is getting direct rail links with Bucharest, and the number of carriages on routes to Sofia and Prague is being increased.

SAGAN ARTICLE ON U.S.-USSR MARS FLIGHT CITED

LD041101 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 4 TASS -- A joint American-Soviet space mission to the planet Mars is quite feasible, both from the standpoint of politics, and technology, a prominent American astronomer writes in PARADE magazine.

Carl Sagan, president of the U.S. Planetary Society, stresses that success of an expedition of this kind would create groundwork for establishing settlements on other planets, and would facilitate the expansion and consolidation of peaceful cooperation between the USSR and the United States.

Similar aerospace, electronic, rocket and even nuclear technologies are used in space flights and in the nuclear arms race, Sagan writes. That is why an alternative programme that would use all that for peaceful purposes would be of positive importance.

A mission by a manned spacecraft to Mars, the American astronomer stresses, would be much cheaper than the "star wars" programme. Should a joint expedition be organized, the cost for each side would be even lower.

Both houses of U.S. Congress adopted and President Ronald Reagan signed Resolution No 236 in 1984, making it a law, Sagan recalls. Joint space activity of the United States and the USSR is characterized in the document as an alternative to the arms race in outer space, this race being in no one's interest.

Subsequent resolutions, tabled to the Senate, review the possibility of joint East-West actions with regard to Mars, which would envisage the taking and delivery to earth of Martian samples with the aid of an automatic probe and other steps that would bring about an international expedition to that planet.

Mars for decades attracted Soviet pioneer of space flights Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy and his American colleague Robert Goddard, the scientist writes. The rockets which they invented were intended for the transportation of people to other planets, not for the destruction of life on Earth.

Both countries can act together in the name of common interests, Sagan stresses. This was during the Second World War when the United States and the Soviet Union fought against the common enemy, and in July 1975 when the American Apollo and Soviet Soyuz spacecraft docked in orbit.

U.S. 'INTERFERENCE' IN PHILIPPINES CRITICIZED

LD041950 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, February 4 TASS -- The election campaign in the Philippines is now at its closing stage. President Ferdinand Marcos said that the national electoral committee, acting in conformity with the constitution, had instructed the armed forces to ensure order in the country on February 7, the day of voting in the presidential elections, so as to maintain tranquility. He urged opposition leaders to refrain from statements instigating the population to rioting and violence.

U.S. active interference in the internal matters of the Philippines with the use of political, economic and military pressure in order to preserve the strategic positions of the United States in that country is a source of growing tensions in the Philippines on the eve of elections. There are nearly 20 American military facilities in the territory of the Philippines.

In an attempt at reversing the course of the election campaign into a channel favourable for Washington, the U.S. mass media have launched a slander campaign directed against the Marcos government. The statement by former U.S. Attorney-General R. Clark, who said that Washington has different "scenarios" for the Philippines including the ones envisaging a forcible change of power through a coup, are evidence of how far the overseas strategists may go in their open interference and diktat.

U.S. SEEKING TO PERPETUATE RULE OVER MICRONESIA

LD011341 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 1 TASS -- According to reports of news agencies, they in Washington are completing work to draw up the ultimate version of a plan to grant Micronesia the status of a "free association with the USA".

For several years now, the U.S. ruling circles have been trying, in violation of the UN Charter, to perpetuate officially their rule over the trust territory of Micronesia. The sea lanes along which oil and other commodities of the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are carried run near the Marianas, the Caroline and Marshall Islands belonging to it. Rich deposits of ferro-manganese concretions have been tapped in the depth of the sea between the Hawaiian islands and Micronesia. U.S. transnational corporations have rushed into that area in their drive for uncontrolled development of off-shore deposits of strategic raw materials.

The "new status" of Micronesia is believed to have a military character. The USA is using that area for unhampered passage of the U.S. naval ships. Special significance is attached to a proving range in Kwajalein Atoll for the testing of U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles and the latest weapons systems connected with the "star wars" programme. The proving range may be expanded in the future to meet the needs of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative programme.

The USA has turned Micronesia into its semicolonial appendage and thus crudely violated international law. Under the U.N. mandate granted to the USA the U.S. authorities were expected to contribute to independent socio-economic development of the trust territory and prepare it for independence. Yet Washington has failed to meets its commitments. As was stressed at the latest U.N. General Assembly session the actions taken by the USA vis-a-vis Micronesia is an inadmissible violation of the U.N. Charter and declaration of the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples.

U.S. PROTECTS UKRAINIAN NAZI 'CRIMINALS'

AU041022 [Editorial Report] Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian on 28 and 29 January on page 3 in each case carries in two installments a 3,500-word report by A. Fedritskiy entitled "Caught Red Handed! 'Quiet Neighbors,' 'Once Again About War Criminals and Their Advocates," which describes in detail the case of Ukrainian-born John Demyanyuk to show that "Washington uses all means to prevent Nazis and their henchmen from being brought to account."

According to the report, Ivan Demyanyuk, born on 3 April 1920 at Duboryye Makharntsy village, in Kazatinskiy Rayon, Vinnitsa Oblast, was long regarded in his native village as having died on the front, whereas in fact he had surrendered to the Hitlerites during one of the first battles. This was the beginning of "his path into the abyss of treason." Trained in Travniki, Demyanyuk and his companions were assigned to guard service in Treblinka concentration camp where Demyanyuk won among the inmates the nickname of "Bloody Ivan." After the war, Demyanyuk emigrated to the United States and for many years lived in Cleveland, Ohio. Among his neighbors he he was known "as a conscientious worker, and exemplary family man, and a model parish member." In 1958, he was naturalized and became a U.S. citizen, but having been identified as Treblinka's 'Bloody Ivan,' in February 1981 "the hangman had to face trial." "All the trumps of the defendant and of his defenders proved to be beaten. Besides, they had no trumps -- just pitiful attempts to whitewash what was black notwithstanding the obvious and merciless facts." "By a court ruling, John Demyanyuk was deprived of U.S. citizenship."

The trial and its circumstances have been described by American lawyer Allan (Ryan) in his book entitled "Quiet Neighbors." This title, in Fedritskiy's opinion, "very felicitously qualifies those people who in the past killed, burned, and robbed, and now live carefree lives in America." In that country, criminals transformed into "quiet neighbors" are not exceptional cases.

"Also Bogdan Koziy from Fort Lauderdale in Florida, Konstantin Varvariv who represented the United States in UNESCO some time ago, and quite a few other 'model Americans' from among those people who made use of the Displaced Persons status to cowardly evade punichment and to seek shelter over the ocean, have proved to be war criminals, Nazi henchmen, and direct participants in bloody actions."

Court rulings depriving people of citizenship, as in Demyanyuk's case, have been exceptional, and the cases of extradition "may be counted on one's fingers," Fedritskiy says. "The overseas authorities are in no hurry to deport Demyanyuk, although they have repeatedly promised to do so. And here is what such promises are worth: as a spokesman of the U.S. Department of Justice said, the final decision on deportation will only be adopted when Demyanyuk has exhausted all possibilities of reexamination of his case in the U.S. courts. And this implies new months, and perhaps years, of adjournments." Federitskiy does not rule out the possibility that Demyanyuk might in the end have his U.S. citizenship, reinstated, as happened to Sergey Kovalchuk, former policeman in Volyn Oblast. "Washington uses all means to prevent Nazis and their assistants from being brought to account, puts sticks into the wheels of investigation, court trials, and the execution even of those sentences which have been passed in so niggardly a way by the United States' goddess of justice. This is why the results of the almost 7-year activity of the Justice Department's Special Investigation Section are more than modest.

"Evidently, the United States authorities do not intend to change this policy, which goes against the numerous international documents and agreements -- starting with the materials of the Nuremberg trial which, apparently, they are trying not to recall."

It is superfluous to say "how encouraging this position is to those whose hands have been stained up to the elbows with blood, and to their assistants!" the author adds. "Having recovered from a slight fright caused by the several trials, they rushed headlong into a furious attack themselves. Their objective is not to individual criminals such as Demyanyuk. What they are after is to eliminate in principle, once and for all, precedents that occasionally darken their cloudless lives under the protection of the stars-and-stripes. And there is one more reason: they do not want the wide circles of Ukrainian emigrants, and above all young people, to learn about their crimes."

"Dug in behind the ocean, the O.U.N. [Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists] rabble have now launched a massive attack against the Special Investigation Section under the U.S. Department of Justice," and "have made attempts to exert pressure on the so-called Jules (Duchene) commission set up under the Canadian parliament." They are complaining that the presecution of Hitlerite assistants allegedly "discredits Ukrainians before the entire world," A. Federitskiy argues and ends: "But precisely the people themselves have long ago qualified them as traitors to their fatherland, bastards, and mercenaries without kith or kin. This is the final sentence which is not subject to appeal."

EXTRADITION OF WAR CRIMINAL FROM CANADA SOUGHT

AU272132 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 23 Jan 86 p 3

[RATAU report: "In the Name of Innocent Victims"]

[Text] "In the name of the millions of victims of fascist terror, for the sake of strengthening peace all over the world and the security of peoples in the future, we firmly repuest the extradition of Ivan Dik to Soviet justice. He should be deservedly punished for his crimes committed during the Great Patriotic War."

TEXT This was a request addressed to the Canadian Government, on behalf of the 92,000 inhabitants of Selidovo miners' city in Donetsk Oblast, by the participants in a meeting held on 22 January on the 40th anniversary of the Nuremberg trial of Hitlerite war criminals.

Selidovskiy Rayon was in the hands of the German Fascist occupiers for nearly 2 years -- from October 1941 to September 1943. Shots were fired in the rayon, and peaceful Soviet people were dying from bullets and tortures every day. The Hitlerites and their assistants from among the traitors shot to death and in a beastly way tortured to death 6,918 Soviet citizens and prisoners of war. 1,250 persons were flung into mine shafts. They took away hundreds of young people to hard labor in Germany.

Among those who perpetrated those unheard-of crimes, the meeting participants pointed out, there was Ivan Dik, fascist stooge and rayon policy deputy chief. He personally shot dead or cruelly beat up the city and rayon inhabitants during interrogations, and tracked down patriots.

Woman pensioner L.K. Vishnevskaya said that the traitor was horrible even in his appearance: -- He was always armed to the teeth, and carried a lash which he brought down without thinking twice on anyone whom he disliked.

"Before the war, I worked in the oblast center people's court," S.T. Dzyuba said. "Since I did not manage to evacuate, when the occupiers came I decided to look for a shelter in Selidovo where people knew me. But late in December 1941 I was caught during a police raid. It was Dik who interrogated me. Before my eyes he shot dead in coldblood a young miner, Sergey Kopachev. I tried to say a word in defense of the innocent victim. In a rage, the hangman on the spot shot at me."

S.T. Dzyuba survived by a miracle. Along with several dozens of people shot to death, he was cast into a ditch. The wounds proved to be not fatal, and at night, having regained consciousness, he climbed out of the horrible mass grave.

Woman pensioner M.A. Panasenko, woman teacher N.A. Tsimbal, war veteran I.M. Borodin, and other speakers at the meeting gave evidence that I. Dik and his assistants, before the eyes of the inhabitants, exterminated the family of Abram Kovalevskiy, not even sparing the life of a 2-year old girl. On another occasion, the bandits delivered to the city office 15 absolutely innocent people and in a beastly way made short work of them.

Ivan Dik escaped from the Donbass along with the fascists. Then he turned up in Canada, and there he has remained free, notwithstanding the fact that the USSR Prosecutor's Office handed over to the appropriate Canadian authorities weighty evidence of his crimes.

"Our grief and anguish will never subside," Selidovo inhabitants wrote in their message to the prime minister of Canada. They demanded a severe punishment for participants in crime committed during the last war.

MURAKHOVSKIY LAUDS COOPERATION WITH MONGOLIA

OW030405 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1709 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, February 1 (MONTSAME) -- V.S. Murakhovskiy, chairman of the Soviet part of the intergovernmental Soviet-Mongolian Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the Gosagroprom [State Agro-industrial Commission] of the USSR, has granted an interview to a MONTSAME correspondent. He took part in the 30th session of the intergovernmental commission, which took place here from 28 to 31 January this year. Speaking about prospects of bilateral cooperation V.S. Murakhovskiy noted in part: "One of our main [words indistinct] tasks in the new five years is to ensure a maximum rise in the return from the production potential created in the MPR. In this respect the main goal of our cooperation, in line with the programmatic directives of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, is to promote the building in Mongolia of a rational national economic complex, which would effectively use its internal resources and the advantages of the international socialist division of labour.

The Soviet-Mongolian economic cooperation in the new five years [as received] envisages the reconstruction and expansion of agricultural, light, food, mining, fuel and power, repairing, wood-working industrial projects, those in transport and communications was well as housing and utilities.

A considerable increase of Soviet economic, scientific and technical aid to Mongolia in solving social problems in rural area is also envisaged. Here, main attention will be paid to strengthening material and technical foundations of agricultural cooperatives. The volume of cooperation in this fled is to double in the new five years.

Answering the question about the solving food problem in the Soviet Union, V.S. Murakhovskiy underscored in part: "In my country the agricultural engineering - dustry is being increased. Suffice it to say that state farms and kolkhozes (ops) have been supplied with 10 percent more of machinery and equipments in the last three years as against the corresponding period prior to the May CPSU CC plenum (which adopted the food programme in 1982).

Volumes of production of chemical fertilizers, additional and concentrated animal feeds, microbiological proteins and other produces are being increased. For example, the average annual delivery of mineral fertilizers to the agricultural sector has gone up by 23 percent.

"On the whole, everday per capita food consumption is equivalent today to 3400 calories. By this showing our country is on the sale level with the (?most) developed countries. But per capita consumption of meat, milk, fruits and vegetables is not yet sufficient.

"The central problem is to achieve a radical increase in feed production and thus considerably raise livestock productivity.

Dwelling upon the outcomes of the 30th session of the intergovernmental commission, the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers said:

"First of all, we have summed up the realization of the Soviet-Mongolian agreement on economic cooperation and that of the long-term trade agreement. We've shared the view that these agreements were fulfilled on the whole. Under these agreements, dozens of projects in all branches of national economy were built and commissioned in Mongolia and the foreign trade turnover between the two countries grew more than doubled during the last five years."

"In the current five years we have to develop economic cooperation more dynamically and achieve a steady growth of its efficiency and the long-term programme of developing economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the MPR and the USSR up to the year 2000 serves the aim, signed by CPSU CC General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev and J. Batmonh, MPRP CC general secretary, chairman of the Presidium of the MPR Great People's Hural, on 29 August 1983 in Moscow.

We have determined the order of carrying out specific programmes aimed at realizing this long-term programme challenged by this difficult task, national parts of the intergovernmental commission, ministries and departments of the two countries are undertaking huge responsibility. In a short span of time they should work our coordinated measures and start implementing them.

At the session we have considered the outcomes of cooperation in science and technology and defined its tasks in the new five years with due regard for the decision to elaborate a programme of scientific and technical progress of the MPR for 15-20 years and also the Comprehensive Programme of Scientific-Technological Progress of CEMA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) member-states up to the year 2000."

"While staying in the Mongolian People's Republic, we have visited the towns of Darhan, Hotol and Erdenet. It's the first time I am in Mongolia and the meetings with interesting people and the efficient performance of industrial enterprises have greatly impressed me.

In Hotol, we attended the ceremony of inaugurating a new cement and lime plant built with Soviet economic and technical assistance. It is a large-scale enterprise which will produce 500 thousand tonnes of cement a year and thus fully satisfy the country's needs.

"Many thousands of Soviet and Mongolian designers, construction and assembly workers made their contribution to the building of this large project. Over 250 industries of the Soviet Union supplied this plant with necessary machines and equipment.

On the whole, we have charted at the commission session a programme of action for realizing the large-scale cooperation between our two countries in the new five years. This makes an important part of the preparations for the 27th CPSU and the 19th MPRP Congresses, underscored V.S. Murakhovskiy, the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

IRAN 'TOTALLY SATISFIED' OVER TALKS WITH KORNIYENKO

LD041634 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA -- The first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Georgiy Korniyenko, left Tehran this morning at the end of a three-day visit and talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i and other Iranian officials.

Korniyenko who led a political delegation to Tehran, described his talks with Iranian officials as "frank, comprehensive and constructive".

He was seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by acting Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

Besharati said that negotiations with the Soviet official involved a comprehensive discussion of relevant Iran-Soviet as well as regional and international issues.

He said that Korniyenko extended a formal invitation of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze to his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati to visit the USSR which was accepted. Also agreed on was the resumption of Aeroflot flights between the capitals of the two countries. It was also agreed that additional contacts and talks would be held, Besharati noted.

A joint Iran-Soviet commission chaired by Iran's minister of economy and finance and Soviet chairman of state committee for foreign economic relations is also to be formed, the deputy foreign minister added.

The Iranian official further noted that it was only natural that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union which share 1,900 [as received] borders as well as historical links should have wide-ranging bilateral ties.

Besharati added that the Islamic Republic is "totally satisfied" with the outcome of the talks.

PRAVDA Calls Talks 'Frank, Businesslike'

PM041938 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meetings in Tehran"]

[Text] At the Iranian side's invitation G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, visited Tehran 2-4 February. He was received by and had talks with 'A. Khamene'i, President of Iran, A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (parliament), M.H. Musavi, prime minister, A.A. Velayati, foreign minister, and 'A.M. Besharati, first deputy foreign minister.

During the conversations, which were frank and business-like in character, there was a discussion both of bilateral relations between the USSR and Iran and of international problems, including regional problems, of interest to both sides.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY HUNGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

PM041913 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Visit to Soviet Union: Hungarian People's Republic Defense Minister, Colonel General Ferenc Karpati"]

[Excerpts] Colonel General F. Karpati, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and Hungarian People's Republic defense minister, arrives in Moscow today [5 February] on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister.

The servicemen of the USSR Armed Forces, like all Soviet People welcome Col Gen F. Karpati, Hungarian defense minister, and express confidence that this visit will serve the further development and consolidation of the inviolable fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the peoples and armies of the Soviet Union and Hungarian People's Republic.

Met on Arrival by Sokolov

LD050757 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0735 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Colonel-General Ferenc Karpati, minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and USSR Minister of defense. Karpati was met at the airport by Sergey Sokolov and other officials.

JARUZELSKI SUPPORTS SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVE

LD041958 Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Warsaw, February 4 TASS -- "The statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, outlining concrete ways of carrying out a comprehensive programme of disarmament and liquidating nuclear and chemical arms already before the end of the present century, is of historic importance". This was noted in his remarks by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Chairman of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski. He received here today members of the Presidium of the Polish committee for conducting the congress of scientists and cultural figures in defence of the planet's peaceful future, held recently in the Polish capital.

"The new Soviet proposals set forth in the statement by the CPSU leader are directed at expanding dialogue on pressing problems facing the world", Wojciech Jaruzelski went on. He stressed that representatives of world science and culture should make their contribution to the struggle against the war danger.

"Mikhail Gorbachev's statement has become an event of paramount importance that influenced the atmosphere and course of the Warsaw congress", the Polish leader went on. He noted the big international importance of this forum which became one of the first events of the unproclaimed international year of peace. The congress offered its rostrum for an extensive dialogue between prominent representatives of science, culture and art, of public organisations coming out for peace and disarmament, for expanding international cooperation.

JOINT PROJECTS AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

LD042249 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1536 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 4 Feb -- In the 5-year period that has just started, organizations of the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic will carry out joint work on 25 projects of various sectors of industry. This is envisaged in an agreement signed here today between the two countries on deliveries of equipment and economic and scientific-technical cooperation in construction of industrial enterprises and other projects in Hungary in the years 1986-1990. On the Soviet side the document was signed by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and on the Hungarian side by Peter Veress, minister of foreign trade.

Under the agreement, a TASS correspondent was told, in this 5-year period the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic will expand and deepen equitable, mutually-favorable cooperation in various fields of the economy.

Thus, as before the sides intend to devote much attention to stepping up capacities in the Hungarian People's Republic's fuel-and-energy complex, the construction in Hungary of major power engineering works, in particular atomic power engineering. A leading site of cooperation in this sphere is the "Paksh" atomic power station. In the current 5-year plan Soviet and Hungarian organizations will continue to cooperate in the construction and expansion of this atomic power station. It is supposed that the power station will reach its design capacity -- 3520 megawatts in the middle of the nineties.

The "Paksh" atomic station is a site of complex, multifaceted cooperation between socialist countries. The equipment for it is being supplied not only by Soviet and Hungarian enterprises, but also by works in Bulgaria, the GDR, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia.

Remaining as an important sphere of cooperation between the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic will be the construction of ferrous metallurgy enterprises.

The reconstruction, for example, of rolling shops and a blast furnace at the Danube Metallurgical Combine, and reconstruction of rolling capacity at the Lenin Metallurgical Combine is being projected. These operations are also to be conducted by joint efforts of the organizations of the two countries.

The USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic will also cooperate in the period 1986-90 in such industries as nonferrous metallurgy, the chemical and oil-processing industry, the radio industry, and the production of communications equipment, the coal-extraction industry, machine-building and others.

The agreement signed today is a concrete step on the road to putting into practice the decisions of the summit-level conference of CEMA member-countries, and the implementation of the clauses of the long-term program to develop economic and scientific-and-technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic for the period up to the year 2000.

REPORTAGE ON KULIKOV VISIT TO HUNGARY

For Budapest coverage of Viktor Kulikov, marshal of the Soviet Union and chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces' visit to Hungary, including meetings with Janos Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers, see the Hungary section of the 3 and 4 February issues of the EASTERN EUROPE Daily Report.

EMBASSY IN FRANCE PROTESTS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST STAFF

LD041222 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 4 TASS -- The USSR Embassy in France issued the following statement today:

"The Soviet side is stating a resolute protest in connection with the French authorities' demand that two diplomatic members and one technical employee of the staff of the military attache at the USSR Embassy in Paris as well as one Soviet commerical representative leave France. The action which is being accompanied with unfounded accusations is of obviously unfriendly and provocative character. Such actions by the French side do not correspond to its statements about the aspiration to maintain and develop good relations with the USSR. Responsibility for the consequences of the action rests with the French side".

"At the same time the Soviet side must point out that the attention of the French side has been repeatedly drawn to the fact that some French staff members in Moscow do not observe the rules of conduct of foreign representatives in the USSR and engage in illicit activities.

"In view of activities incompatible with their status, two diplomatic members and one technical employee of the staff of the military attache at the Embassy of France in the USSR as well as an intern at the Commerical Department of the Embassy have been ordered to leave the USSR within a week.

"The Soviet side warns that a continuation of unfriendly actions against the staff members of Soviet institutions in France will, naturally, give rise to an adequate reaction".

CYPRIOT PRESIDENT DISCUSSES SOVIET PROPOSALS WITH ENVOY

NC041754 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1730 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] President Spiros Kiprianou received Soviet Ambassador Sergey Astavin today. According to the government spokesman, their meeting dealt with the recent Soviet initiative on the Cyprus issue. The discussion was also attended by Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou.

ARISTOV RECEIVES TURKISH FINANCE MINISTER

PM041617 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] A. Alptemocin, Turkish minister of finance and customs, who is visiting Moscow, was received by B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade, on 31 January.

Questions of bilateral trade and economic relations were examined and opinions exchanged on the potential for developing them further. O. Candardes, Turkish ambassador to the USSR, took part in the converation.

ISRAELI PLANES FORCE LIBYAN PLANE TO LAND

U.S. Gave Israel Information

LD041525 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, February 4 TASS -- A civilian plane of the Libyan airline was intercepted and forced to land on Israeli territory by Israeli warplanes today, Radio Tripoli reported quoting JANA news agency. All information about the airliner, which was flying from Tripoli to Damascus, had been made available to the Israelis from American warships which had been involved in recent U.S. naval and air force maneuvers off Libyan shores.

Syrian Foreign Minister Informs UN

LD050707 Moscow TASS in English 0651 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS -- Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs of Syria, informed the United Nations secretary general about an act of piracy committed by Israeli Air Force fighters. An official Syrian delegation led by Deputy Secretary General of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party 'Abdallah al-Ahmar was aboard the plane en route from Tripoli for Damascus. Syria put the entire responsibility for that act of air piracy on Israel and requests the United Nations general to inform the Security Council about that deed which constitutes a gross violation of the norms of international law and of the international conventions guaranteeing the freedom and safety of flights, says a letter from the Syrian foreign minister.

Security Council Meets

LD050835 Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent V. Chernyshov reports:

At the request of the Government of Syria, the U.N. Security Council has urgently started discussing the Israeli piratic act which was committed in the international air space against the Libyan airliner which carried Syria's official delegation. In a letter to the U.N. secretary general, Foreign Minister of Syria Faruq al-Shar' noted the gravity of that terroristic act which is a gross violation of international law and conventions which guarantee freedom and safety of flights in the international airspace.

As was stated by Syria's permanent representative at the United Nations D. al-Fatah, the grave crime which has been committee by Tel Aviv against the international community and which threatens universal peace and security, call upon the Security Council to take the most resolute steps to bridle the high-handed terrorists. Washington, which supports the Israeli policy of state terrorism, bears entire responsibility for Israel's unbridled actions in a bid to impose "the law of the jungle" upon the peoples of the Middle East and the whole of the international community.

This is for the third time in a period of a little more than a month in the New Year that the Security Council considers the question of Israel's aggressive actions against neighboring states. In two previous cases the USA used the right of veto at the Security Council, declaring in support of its "strategic partner" and spurring it to new crimes.

Israel's broadening of proportions of aggression which in its character becomes more barbarous and which imperils universal peace, stressed observer of the League of Arab states at the United Nations S. Mansur, as thelogical consequence of the paralysis which has hit the Security Council through the fault of the United States which not only provides absolute protection for international gangsters but openly applauds their crimes, encouraging them for more crimes.

The speech made by the Israeli representative has shown that Tel Aviv continues hoping for Washigton's support. He feigned "surprise" at the convocation of the Security Council and insolently asserted that under the pretext of the "right to self defence" Israel intended to undertake any actions it deems "necessary". He was trying to present the outrageous act of piracy against the defenceless airliner of another country in international airspace as "an insignificant incident".

ISRAELI PARTICIPATION IN U.S. MANEUVERS REPORTED

LD041047 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, February 4 TASS — Israel's Navy ships have taken part in American naval manoeuvres off the coast of Libya, the Egyptian newspaper AL-SHAAB has disclosed. Six Israeli warships, including SAAR missile boats, under the flag of the commander of the Israeli Navy, were involved in the provocative U.S. war games.

PDRY SUPREME COUNCIL PRESIDIUM ISSUES STATEMENT

LD311827 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Aden, January 31 TASS -- The Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) has met here under the direction of Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, prime minister, who is now an acting president of the Republic.

The presidium discussed matters of the political, economic and military situation in the PDRY and endorsed the evaluations of the recent events in the country by the January 24 plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party.

A statement which was adopted on the results of the meeting calls on broad popular masses to make maximum efforts to raise labour productivity and the efficiency of the enterprises of the state and cooperative sectors. The statement points out the importance of the contribution by and resourcesful participation of population in the work to restore order and to rehabilitate the destroyed facilities.

The presidium urged all citizens who had left the country during the events to return home together with their families.

Touching upon the foreign policy of Democratic Yemen, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council reaffirmed the PDYR's course towards ensuring the security of peoples, and stability in the region and in the world as a whole, and expressed readiness for cooperation with all states on the principles of peaceful coexistence and mutual respect.

The PDRY, the statement stresses, will continue to strength the ties of friendship with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, to develop contacts with Arab states on the basis of solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Democratic Yemen will continue the policy aimed at ensuring unity with the people of northern Yemen and at achieving a reunification of the motherland on a peaceful democratic basis in accordance with the existing agreements.

SOVIET GROUP IN CUBA; CASTRO ADDRESSES CONGRESS

Delegation Tours Havana

LD041558 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0607 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, 4 Feb (TASS) -- The CPSU delegation headed by Yegor Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which has come here to take part in the work of the 3d Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, has laid a wreath at the monument to Jose Marti, Cuba's national hero, on Revolution Square. A wreath was also laid at the monument to V.I. Lenin in the park in the capital which bears the name of the leader of the world's proletariat.

On the same day, members of the delegation made a tour of Havana. They visited the capital's museum, looked at sights in the old part of the city, which has been declared by UNESCO to be part of the cultural heritage of mankind, and visited Ernest Hemingway's house and museum near the Cuban capital. The delegation was accompanied by Lionel Soto, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and Cuban ambassador to the USSR.

In the evening the CPSU delegation attended a formal concert by masters of the arts given in honor of the delegates and visitors to the 3d Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Ligachev Attends Congress Opening

LD041559 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 4 TASS -- The Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) opened in Havana's Palace of Congresses today in a ceremonial atmosphere. The congress is being attended by 1,790 delegates representing almost 515,000 communists of the country, and by over 200 foreign delegations, among them a CPSU delegation led by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The congress will review the results of the work done by the party and the entire country over the five years that have passed since the PCC's Second Congress, will map out new frontiers of socialist construction. Much importance is being attached to a discussion and adoption of the main guidelines for the country's socio-economic development in 1986-1990, a draft program of the party, some changes in the party rules, and other important documents concerning various aspects of the republic's life. The congress was declared open by Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, first vice-president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic. He made a brief opening speech, cordially greeting the foreign guests of the congress. Those present unanimously endorsed an agenda of the congress and a procedure for its work, and elected its steering bodies.

Castro Speaks to Congress

LD050716 Moscow TASS in English 0649 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 5 TASS -- The Communist Party of the Soviet Union is our closest friend and the most reliable political ally, said Fidel Castro, delivering the main report at the Third Congress of Cuba's Communist Party, which has opened in Havana.

He stressed that the guideline of the foreign policy of Cuba's Communist Party is to strengthen relations with communist parties of the whole world, primarily socialist countries. Fidel Castro thoroughly analysed Cuba's development and stressed that over the period under review the country accomplished new major successes in socio-economic development. He noted that the U.S. attempts to isolate the Cuban revolution suffered a complete fiasco. Despite its difficulties, the Cuban economy has substantially gained in strength, the communist party ranks have become more active and efficient, the people have rallied closer around the party. The speaker firmly denounced the Washington administration for its recurrence of the "big club" policy in Latin America. He declared in support of the Nicaraguan revolution, against which the U.S. is conducting an undeclared war, and reaffirmed Cuba's firm solidarity with the people's fighting for freedom, independence and sovereignty.

U.S. VIEW OF HAITIAN UNREST TERMED 'ABSURDITY'

PM041217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Unnamed own correspondent dispatch under the general heading "Haiti: Dictator's 'Throne' Shakes"]

[Excerpt] Washington, 3 Feb -- The situation in Haiti is causing marked concern in the Washington corridors of power. It is no secret that the United States has recently allocated the island an increasingly large role in connection with U.S. armed intervention in Central America and the intensification of its anti-Cuban campaign. Washington has constantly given aid to the dictator and his armed forces and this year planned to allocate the sizable sum of $56 million to them.

Commenting on the events in the country, many people here are observing that the eruption of Haitian anger confirms yet again the absurdity of the U.S. Administration's "arguments" in trying to prove that the people's movements in the region are the result of some kind of "communist conspiracy." "As far as everyone here is aware," a U.S. journalist reports, not without irony, from Port-au-Prince, "there are no Haitian Sandinists on the island." But what they do have an abundance of there, on the other hand, are monstrous living conditions and very brutal repression. Suffice it to say that Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere by every yardstick. And all this is not the consequence of intrigues by "left-wing forces," but to a considerable extent the result of the actions of by United States, which bears direct responsibility for maintaining one of the most odious of dictators in power.

SOVIET GUYANESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED

PM261935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] Georgetown, 24 Jan -- The Soviet trade delegation headed by N.V. Zinovyev, chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade's Trade with American Countries Administration, has ended its visit to the Cooperative Republic of Guyana. The delegation was received by the republic's president, Hugh Desmond Hoyte. During their stay in Georgetown the members of the Soviet trade delegation had talks with representatives of the Guyanese Government to discuss questions of expanding trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. On the basis of the results of the talks an intergovernmental agreement was signed on deliveries of bauxite from Guyana to the USSR in 1986-1993. Those taking part in the talks exchanged opinions on the prospects of Soviet-Guyanese cooperation in the field of the bauxite extracting industry, gold mining, agriculture, and health.

SOVIET-ARGENTINE COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED AFTER VISIT

PM011759 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

["Joint Soviet-Argentine Communique" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Dante Mario Caputo, minister of foreign relations and worship of the Republic of Argentina, was on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the USSR Government's invitation from 28 January through 1 February 1986. The high-ranking Argentine guest and the persons accompanying him were accorded a hospitable reception, which reflects the friendly, forward-looking nature of the relations prevailing between the two countries. During his visits to Moscow and Leningrad the Argentine guest saw for himself various aspects of the Soviet people's life and their achievements in the economic, scientific, and cultural spheres. The minister laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall. A wreath was also laid at the Piskarevskoye Cemetery in Leningrad.

D. Caputo, Argentine minister of foreign relations and worship, was received by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Talks were held between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and D. Caputo, Argentine minister of foreign relations and worship, which proceeded in a spirit of mutual understanding. A fruitful exchange of opinions took place on questions concerning the strengthening and further development of Soviet-Argentine relations and on topical international problems. The ministers noted with satisfaction that relations between the two countries are acquiring an increasingly broad and multifaceted nature and are gaining specific content. Political contacts, interparliamentary ties, and consultations along foreign ministry lines are developing between the Soviet Union and Argentina. Both sides expressed the firm intention to advance along the path of deepening Soviet-Argentine cooperation in various spheres on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality, mutual respect, and noninterference.

Both sides expressed confidence that this year's visit to the Soviet Union by President R. Alfonsin of the Republic of Argentina will prove a major landmark in the development of bilateral relations which were inaugurated more than 100 years ago and will be a most vivid manifestation of friendship between the two countries.

Attaching particular significance to political dialogue and to the purposefulness of expanding bilateral exchanges of opinions, the ministers signed a Soviet-Argentine consultations protocol.

The ministers confirmed mutual interest in the expansion of cooperation and the development of ties in the spheres of culture, education, and science, and signed a cultural and scientific cooperation agreement for this purpose.

An intergovernmental agreement was signed on grain and soybean deliveries to the Soviet Union in 1986-1990 and there was an exchange of letters on the question of deliveries of Soviet machines and equipment to Argentina in the same period. Noting with satisfaction the significant expansion of Soviet-Argentine trade and economic ties in the last few years, the sides displayed readiness to take steps aimed at their further strengthening and development.

With a view to boosting the development of scientific and technical ties, it was agreed to step up efforts on the implementation of the program for cooperation in the spheres of science and technology adopted at the November 1984 eighth session of the mixed Soviet-Argentine commission for trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

The ministers reached agreement on the preparation of a joint anthology of documents to mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two states and signed a protocol on the publication of this anthology.

The coincidence of the two countries' stance on basic questions of our time emerged in the course of the detailed exchange of opinions on a broad range of key international problems of mutual interest. The ministers expressed a firm belief that responsibility and energetic efforts by all states -- large, medium, or small -- are necessary at the present complex period of international life for the purpose of really improving the international situation and preventing a nuclear war. Effective steps must be taken for the limitation and reduction of arms and for disarmament. It was emphasized that there is a growing awareness on all continents of the need to take practical measures for the solution of these key problems which affect the fate of all mankind; the importance of political dialogue between states for this purpose was stressed.

In this connection the ministers were unanimous that the Geneva meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan offers the promising prospect of positive changes in international life. They emphasized the fundamental importance of the Soviet and U.S. leaders' joint accords concerning the impermissibility of nuclear war, the sides' renunciation of the pursuit of military superiority, and other important questions with a view to achieving positive development in Soviet-U.S. relations and in the world as a whole. They consider that the preservation and development of the mutual understanding achieved at the Geneva meeting correspond with the interests of all peoples.

The Soviet side drew attention to the package of new Soviet foreign policy initiatives advanced in the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It was emphasized that the Soviet Union put forward a specific program of measures whose implementation would signify a practical solution to the task of delivering manking from nuclear war, putting a complete end for all time to nuclear weapons on earth, preventing the extension of the arms race in space, achieving real disarmament, and fundamentally improving the international situation.

The Argentine side expressed a positive attitude to this initiative by the Soviet Union, which is in harmony with the aspirations of all peace-loving peoples and states. The sides consider it necessary to activate by all possible means the discussion of fundamental disarmament problems at the United Nations, the Disarmament Conference, the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons, and other forums.

The Argentine side talked of the steps it is taking, including those within the context of the group of six countries (Argentina, India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden, and Greece), to curtail nuclear armaments, halt all nuclear tests, and prevent an arms race in space. The Soviet side spoke highly of the efforts by Argentina and the other states in the group of "six" to strengthen peace and international security and expressed the hope that the constructive activity of the group of six states would continue.

Attaching special significance to preventing an arms race in space, both sides stressed the significance of the resolution on this question adopted by the 40th UN General Assembly session, which expresses the collective will of the international community not to allow weapons to appear in space and to make space a sphere of exclusively peaceful cooperation for the benefit of all mankind.

In their examination of international issues the sides expressed grave concern at the continuation and aggravation of regional conflicts, which is having the most adverse effect on political, economic, and social development in Latin America, Asia, and Africa and on the general world situation.

They firmly advocate that the conflict situations and disputes between states be solved by peaceful means, with respect for the right of all peoples to independent development in accordance with the UN Charter and international law.

Mutual concern was expressed at the continued fueling of tension in Central America. The Soviet Union and Argentina came out resolutely against the policy of all manner of pressure and interference and in support of constructive efforts leading to a just political settlement in the region on the basis of complete respect for the people's right to an independent path of development and noninterference in states' internaal affairs. The Soviet side noted Argentina's positive contribution to broad international efforts to normalize the situation in the region.

The sides expressed concern in connection with Britain's creation of a large military base on the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), which is leading to the militarization of the south Atlantic and the intensification of the threat of peace and security. They favored making the south Atlantic a zone of peace and cooperation. The Argentine side expounded its position on the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), noting that the problem is inherited from the colonial past. The Soviet side confirmed its principled viewpoint in favor of an early start to talks between Argentina and Britain to seek ways of settling the dispute on the basis of the relevant UN decisions.

Being resolute opponents of colonialism, the Soviet Union and Argentina condemned the apartheid regime in South Africa, which is conducting a policy of repression against the African majority and carrying out aggressive acts against neighboring states and demanded that they end. The ministers advocated the speediest achievement of independence for Namibia. The sides came out in support of the use of sanctions against South Africa in accordance with the UN Charter.

Expressing grave concern in connection with the continuing tension in the Near East, the sides favored the need for the speediest achievement of a just and comprehensive settlement in the region. The conviction was expressed that the most expedient route to a settlement is the convening of a special international conference under UN auspices with the participation of all interested parties.

Special attention was paid to questions of international economic relations and foreign debts. The sides stressed the link between disarmament and development and the need to switch resources currently being spent on armaments to peaceful purposes. They favored the establishment of a new world economic order and the start of global talks on the most important international economic problems, including the problem of foreign debts.

The sides noted with satisfaction the Nonaligned Movement's increasing role as a major factor in international relations, operating in favor of the improvement of the world climate, cessation of the arms race, and development and cooperation between states on the basis of justice and equality.

Stressing the importance of the United Nations in the system of international relations, the ministers confirmed their countries' adherence to the aims and principles of its charter and advocated an improvement in the organization's effectiveness.

During his stay in Moscow Minister of Foreign Relations and Worship D. Caputo also had conversations with Foreign Trade Minister B.I. Aristov and with K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, during which there was an examination of various aspects of bilateral cooperation in the trade and economic sphere with a view to further strengthening it. The sides expressed satisfaction at the results of the visit and believe it will help further develop friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Argentina for the good of their people and in the interests of international cooperation and the strengthening of peace.

On behalf of the Argentine Government, Minister of Foreign Relations and Worship D. Caputo invited USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze to pay an official visit to Argentina. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction. The sides will agree later on the date of the visit.

CHILEAN COMMUNISTS LAUNCH FINANCIAL CAMPAIGN

PY272142 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2100 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] The Chilean Communist Party Central Committee has issued the following communique dated January 1986:

The 1985 Chilean Communist Party financial campaign carried out by Chilean Communists living abroad was a complete success. Activities were carried out to gather $350,000 and the different coordinators were able to gather a total of $356,891.41. The sixth financial campaign carried out by the coordinators gathered $6,028.54 more than in 1984. Every year larger sums are obtained to meet the higher development of the struggle in the country. In the six financial campaigns that have been carried out in exile, we have been able to gather a total of $1,488,117.40.

The success of the sixth campaign was possible in view of the hard work carried out by the entire party and by each of its cells and militants. Moreover, this shows that there is great international solidarity with the struggle of the Chilean people.

The Central Committee warmly congratulates the entire party abroad for the great effort it carried out and it particularly noted the good results of the work carried out by the coordinators in France, England, Switzerland, the FRG, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Hungary, Mozambique, the CSSR, Austria, western Canada, and Yugoslavia.

Our party has issued a call to make 1986 the year of victory. So that we will be able to achieve this objective, it is imperative to make a superior effort. The struggle against the dictatorship must reach much higher levels. We Chilean Communists and Democrats who live abroad are an integral part in the campaign to achieve this objective. It is within this framework that the seventh financial campaign acquires an extraordinary importance. We call on all party organizations abroad to carefully plan their activities so as to contribute to this objective.

During 1986, the campaign to be carried out by the different coordinators abroad must surpass $400,000. The goal is to make a maximum effort to contribute as much as possible in order to make 1986 the year of victory. We must gather more than $400,000 to make 1986 the year of victory.

Out, Pinochet. Democracy now. We must be successful in the seventh financial campaign.

[Signed] Chilean Communist Party Central Committee.

[Dated] January 1986

CPSU GREETS HONDURAN COMMUNISTS ON CONGRESS

LD312319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent a message of greetings to the delegates of the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Honduras. The telegram expresses feelings of sympathy and solidarity with Honduran Communists and the wish for success in their just and difficult struggle.